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HOUSE RESOLUTION 129
By Rinks

A RESOLUTION To honor and commend Sheriff Tim Hutchison and the administrators and officers of the Knox County Sheriff's Office on their judicious utilization of grant monies from the COPS Office and the Safe Neighborhood Grant Program.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those outstanding public servants who have committed themselves to protecting the public safety and promoting the greater good, no matter what the cost; and

WHEREAS, The brave men and women of the Knox County Sheriff's office are most assuredly public servants of the greatest dedication, ability and vision; and

WHEREAS, Through the auspices of the COPS Office and the Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program, the Knox County Sheriff's Office has secured funding for 34 additional officers for community policing activities; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Knox County Sheriff's Office is in the process of utilizing over \$1 million in federal funds to implement a Mobile Data System; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 120 Mobile Data Terminals have already been installed in patrol cars, so that officers can make more efficient use of their time while on duty; as a result of these

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timesaving devices, officers are now able to spend more time engaged in community policing activities; and

WHEREAS, A Safe Neighborhoods Grant of over \$40,000 enabled the Knox County Sheriff's Office to advance the community-policing concept on an agency-wide basis by reducing the amount of local monies required for the grant match; and

WHEREAS, The Knox County Sheriff's Office has been consistently growing and adding new and innovative programs, including a Volunteer Services Program and the Vestal Community Initiative; and

WHEREAS, The Vestal Community Initiative is a community policing effort that utilizes directed patrols, foot and bike patrols and mounted patrols in a neighborhood in South Knox County; the patrols respond to the areas in which the highest concentration of calls for service occur; and

WHEREAS, The Volunteer Services Program engages the public in serving the law enforcement community by permitting citizens to volunteer their time and talent in designated divisions of the Knox County Sheriff's Office, including the Family Crisis Unit, the Special Services Division and the Pawn Shop Division; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, Knox County Sheriff, Tim Hutchison, was honored by the National Sheriff's Association as Sheriff of the Year, due, in large part, to the innovative programs initiated during his exemplary tenure as Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, Without the funds provided by the COPS Office and the Safe Neighborhood Grant Program, these worthy programs would not have been possible; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Tim Hutchison and the outstanding men and women who protect and serve the public as Officers of the Knox County Sheriff's Office are richly deserving of this Body's special recognition and commendation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we

hereby honor and commend Sheriff Tim Hutchison and the administrators and officers of the Knox County Sheriff's Office on their judicious utilization of grant monies from the COPS Office and the Safe Neighborhood Grant Program, salute their ongoing commitment to community policing and innovation in law enforcement, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.